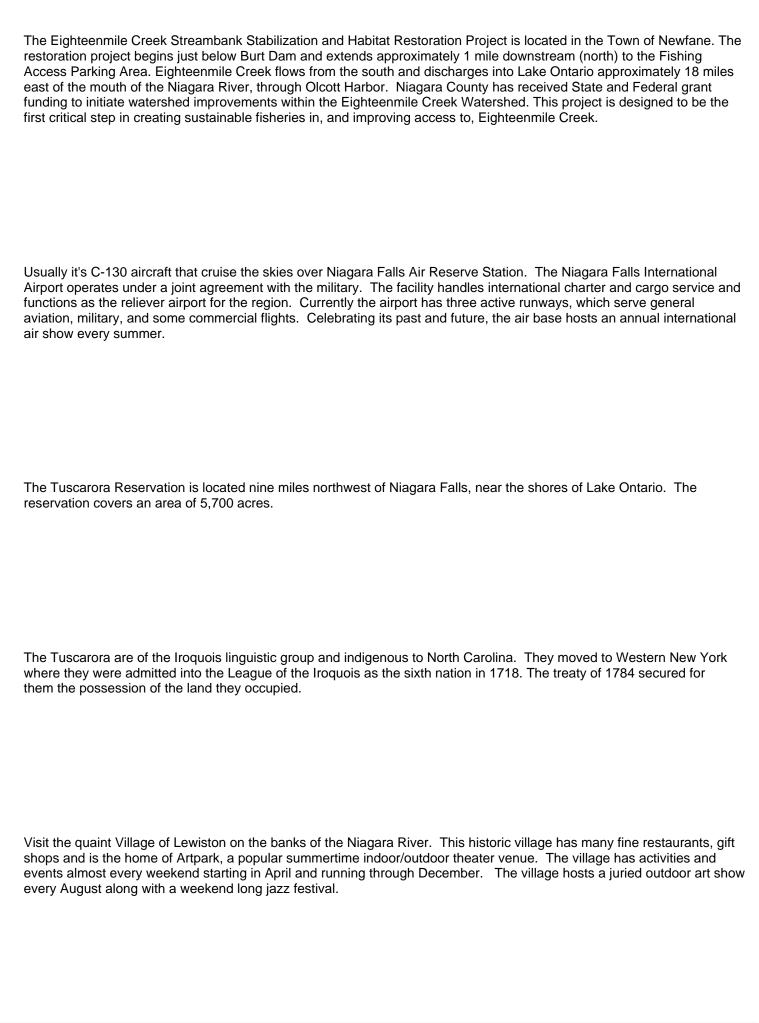
Niagara County
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Niagara County holds a treasure of wonderful resources to explore and experience.
What's the big attraction? It's Niagara Falls, of course.
But the magic doesn't end there. There is an inland ocean at the Aquarium of Niagara, an incredibly intact colonial era fortification at Old Fort Niagara, off-Broadway entertainment, year- round festivals, and enough water and fish to put a smile on any angler's face.
Other well-known attractions include Artpark in Lewiston, Maid of the Mist, Cave of the Winds museum, art galleries, fine restaurants, upbeat nightspots, major shopping centers, outlet malls in the Town of Niagara and many cultural activities. Attractions such as these draw millions of visitors annually from all over the world.
Three hundred years of history can be found at the Old Fort Niagara Historic Site in Youngstown. Established in 1679 by the French, the fort was subsequently held by the British and then used as an active Army barracks up until 1963. French-and-Indian War battle re-enactments are regularly staged at Old Fort Niagara. The site of historic battles and sieges, trading and conquest, Old Fort Niagara is an exciting place where the past lives on. Preserved as they stood in the 1700's when France and Britain controlled Niagara, the Fort's structures include the oldest building in the Great

Lakes region.

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The history of Niagara County also centers on the interaction of agriculture and the Erie Canal, which continues to today. Wine growers, dairy farmers, and farmers markets dot the area. As one example of the agricultural history of the area, Murphy Orchards in Burt, NY is a privately owned and operated fruit farm, located 25 miles east of Niagara Falls. The farm is believed to have been part of the Underground Railroad network between 1850 and 1861. The farmhouse, barn, orchards and landscape itself remain virtually the same as they were 150 years ago, allowing one to step back in time and experience a very special and unique view of Underground Railroad history.
Thirty Mile Point Lighthouse at Golden Hill State Park
in Barker is found along New York's Seaway Trail, the longest National Recreation Trail in the country. The 1875 lighthouse is built of hand-carved stone and a climb to the top provides a breathtaking view of Lake Ontario. Campsites and rental suites in the lighthouse are available for visitors. Thirty Mile Point Lighthouse was one of five chosen for the "Lighthouses of the Great Lakes" series postage stamp designed by Howard Koslow in 1995.
The town of Burt is home to the Van Horn Mansion, a historic 1800s mansion. This lovely restored home is on display for walking tours and is said to be haunted.
The Wilson Harborfront is a recently renovated harbor that features dining at the historic Wilson Boat House on Lake Ontario, with specialty shops, free harbor boat tours, sport fishing and swimming. In Newfane, Olcott Beach has a full service marina, beautiful parks, interesting shops, good food and lodging, with a long tradition as a place for all forms of water recreation.

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Travel up River Road to Youngstown, another wonderful little hamlet where the Niagara River meets Lake Ontario, the only Great Lake that doesn't flow into the Falls. Every year this tiny community hosts the world class level Regatta Sailing competition. Youngstown is also home to Old Fort Niagara and Fort Niagara State Park.

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